

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-4 and 6-21 are pending in this case. Claims 1, 12, and 15 are amended and Claim 5 is canceled without prejudice or disclaimer by the present amendment. Amended Claims 1, 12, and 15 are supported by, for example, the specification at paragraphs 51 and 52 of the publication. Thus, no new matter is added.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 1-14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by Vaudreuil (U.S. Patent No. 5,740,230); Claims 15-18, 20, and 21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Vaudreuil in view of Boerbert (U.S. Patent No. 5,272,754); and Claim 19 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Vaudreuil in view of Boerbert and further in view of Yokomizo (U.S. Patent No. 6,163,796).

With regard to the rejection of Claims 1 and 12 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by Vaudreuil, that rejection is respectfully traversed.

Amended Claim 1 recites in part:

a plurality of message gateways, each message gateway being configured to receive and transmit over at least one dedicated transfer medium,
at least one message processor provided between the first and second message gateway for further processing the content of the message to be transmitted, and
a message broker connected to the message gateways and being provided with a client database,
wherein a first message gateway receives a message from a sending client over a first transfer medium and transmits the message or information extracted thereof to the message broker, the message including meta information and content, the message broker automatically selects an appropriate second transfer medium depending on content of the client database and the meta information of the message without processing the content of the message, the message is sent to the target client via a second message gateway configured to transmit over the second transfer medium selected by the message

broker, and *the message broker has a configuration unit for dynamically tracing the state and properties of message gateways, message processors, and partner brokers.*

Thus, in the claimed invention, the message broker includes a configuration unit that dynamically traces the state and properties of message gateways, message processors, and partner brokers. By dynamically tracing the states and properties of gateways (along with access drivers), message processors, and partner brokers, more efficient and faster communication is possible. Moreover, the likelihood of erroneous message transmission is reduced, and failures are detected more easily.

Vaudreuil does not appear to describe any configuration unit for dynamically tracing the state and properties of message gateways, message processors, and partner brokers. Only the status of the message within the communication system seems to be monitored by the system described by Vaudreuil. Consequently, as Vaudreuil does not teach or suggest “a message broker” as defined in Claim 1, it is respectfully submitted that Claim 1 (and Claims 2-4 and 6-11 dependent therefrom) is not anticipated by Vaudreuil and is patentable thereover.

Independent Claim 12 recites similar elements to Claim 1. It is respectfully submitted that Claim 12 (and Claims 13 and 14 dependent therefrom) is patentable over Vaudreuil for at least the reasons discussed above with respect to Claim 1.

With regard to the rejection of Claim 15 as unpatentable over Vaudreuil in view of Boerbert, that rejection is also respectfully traversed.

Amended Claim 15 recites in part:

transmitting the message in a first format from the sending client to a message broker over a first transfer medium, the message including meta information and content,
encrypting the message with a receiver key that is valid only for an intended receiver and a given message; and
transmitting the message in a second format to the target client over a second transfer medium, wherein the

second transfer medium can be identical to the first transfer medium,

wherein *the message broker* selects an appropriate second transfer medium out of a plurality of transfer media depending on content of a client database connected to the message broker and the target client information included in the meta information of message without processing the content of the message, and *dynamically traces the state and properties of message gateways, message processors, and partner brokers*.

As noted above, Vaudreuil does not appear to describe any configuration unit for dynamically tracing the state and properties of message gateways, message processors, and partner brokers. Only the status of the message within the communication system seems to be monitored by the system described by Vaudreuil. Further, it is respectfully submitted that Boerbert does not cure this deficiency of Vaudreuil. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the proposed combination does not teach or suggest “a message broker” as defined in amended Claim 15. Consequently, amended Claim 15 (and Claims 16-21 dependent therefrom) is patentable over Vaudreuil in view of Boerbert.

With regard to the rejection of Claim 19 as unpatentable over Vaudreuil in view of Boerbert and further in view of Yokomizo, it is noted that Claim 19 is dependent from Claim 15, and thus is believed to be patentable for at least the reasons discussed above. Further, it is respectfully submitted that Yokomizo does not cure any of the above-noted deficiencies of Vaudreuil and Boerbert. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that Claim 19 is patentable over Vaudreuil in view of Boerbert and further in view of Yokomizo.

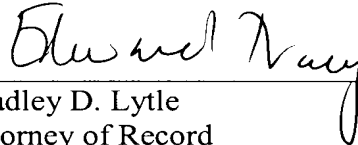
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Accordingly, the pending claims are believed to be in condition for formal allowance.

An early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Bradley D. Lytle", is written over a horizontal line.

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